# 15 More Days for Wildfowl Shooting in Rhode Island, New Jersey and Pennsylvania; 10 for Long Island

## **NOW IS TIME TO** SEEK THE POSSUM

All Species of Dogs Used by Gunners-The More the Merrier.

WINTER NIGHT PASTIME

This is the time when the possum is This is the time when the possum is considered by negroes and some of their white brethren to be in the pink of edible condition, but for the latter the sport of hunting them is more enjoyed than the eating, although every one does not see the sport in going after possum or coon, and, as a matter of fact it may be said to be an acquired taste.

Most persons are familiar with the possum by name. However, let us take a short survey of its habits and traits. The possum's body is stout, clumsy, about sixteen inches long and weighs about twelve pounds.

Its mouth is wide and filled with formidable lopking teeth.

Its eyes are high up in its forehead, and as there are no eyelids worth mentioning they have the appearance of two black bends stuck on the face.

two black bends stuck on the face. These are not very powerful in day-light and even bright moonlight nights

The fur is of two kinds—a soft, woolly hair next the skin and an outer coating of longer hairs, concealing the under coating to some extent. The bair on the upper portion of the body is white at the base and black at the tips, with a line of dark brown run-ning from the forehead to the shoulders,

#### Young Carried in Pouch.

To the male and female the tail is To the male and female the tail is as useful as to the monkey, being used in much the same manner. With its tail and with feet resembling human hands it is no difficult matter for it to secure its food.

The greatest peculiarity of this ani-

mal is its pouch, situated under the belly and in which the young are carried before they are completely developed and afterward retreating to it.

Days of High Cost of when danger threatens. This pocket contains ten, twelve or thirteen teats in the interior, to which the young are attached after their seeming premature birth, and to these they hang for about fifty days.

birth, and to these they hang for about fifty days.

Another peculiarity is its cunning and its ability to feign death after a very slight blow. In this condition it may be beaten, its flesh cut and half skinned and not a muscle will move, but leave it quiet a few moments it will draw a thin lim from its eyes and, if not interfered with, will quickly disappear.

Negroes and whites have many ways of taking the possum, but there is an easy way and a hard way. The easy way would not be tolerated at the present time, as it entails danger from fire. A dark night is chosen, and after the dogs have treed the game a fire is built near the foot of the tree.

As the fire begins to throw out suffi-

near the foot of the tree.

As the fire begins to throw out sufficient light to make the outline of the tree visible a place to chosen in the darkness and the trunk and branches of the tree are closely scanned for Mr.

Possum. After discovery the shotgun or rifle does the rest.

Bome years ago the writer was invited to go after possum, and the hard way was chosen. As it was necessary to wait for the moon to come up the meeting the closed season as when used regularly.

Many of us, either through necessity or preference, pass our days in an apartment heated by steam heat, and while it is indeed a welcome blessing on a cold morning, steam heat is no friend to the ferrules of a rod in a room so heated.

o go after pessum, and the hard way was chosen. As it was necessary to wait for the moon to come up the meeting place was set at the home of a farmer who was going to move, and the possum hunt would take the added form of pay-ing him a last friendly visit.

The house was reached first by the writer and his friend, Soon followed others, accompanied by all kinds of dogs—hounds, black, yellow and spotted; farm dogs, sheep dogs, general utility dogs and then some more dogs.

The farmer's wife was away and would not return until after church, which would be about the right time to go after possum. So men and dogs all came into the large general room and the first number on the programme was deg fights—all seemed fighting at once.

The table was overturned, dishes broken and the room generally wrecked. After sundry beatings, kickings and mustings quiet was restored. Then hard

mustings quiet was restored. Then hard where there is no heat. If jointed, hang one their ideas some of them sought some form of amusement to pass the See if any of the joints have a set in time until the moon came up.

As said before, the farmer was going to move. He had about fifty chickens at the thick end. You will find in some large diameter of the more than a set in should be given particular care when them; if so, let them hang with a small not in use. Do not leave the line on the weight tend to the bottom of the joint at the thick end. You will find in the large diameter was an analysis on a state of the sales of the sales and the sales of the sal

them off, each "hustler" to contrib-10 cents. Now, "hustling" must been a local term, anyway, it consized in putting a certain number of pennies into a hat and shaking them up, the winner being the one having the most "heads" or "tails" up, as the case yourself or have them don't be made, and either do them yourself or have them don't be made. The game opened with about six or

seven playing, but this number was added to from time to time by late ar-rivals, and every time the door was opened more doss slipped in and more

The game continued for some time and caster. opened and the mistress of the house took a few steps into the room. The writer, being near the door, after a hasty glance at her face and seeing amazement, horror and anger depicted here, quietly made his escape into the

He heard a few high pitched words in

them. This was agreed to, and if the dogs had made an uproar, the commotion in the chicken house was ten times worse, hens cackled, roosters gave warning, dogs barked and men cursed, and the squawking of the chickens was heard even along the roads and across fields as those that did not finally go after possum made their way home.

#### Dogs Tree Possum.

The real possum hunters who had won chickens, after decapitating them, made a start on their delayed expedition well inden with hard cider and chickens. After travelling across fields, through woods, wading swamps, being scratched by briars and thorns and falling over

woods, wanted by briars and thorns and thorns and thorns and thorns and thorns and the party at logs, stumps and stones, the party at logs, stumps and stones, the party at the past year.

Remember, though, you have had been the past year.

Remember, though, you have had been the past year.

Remember, though, you have had been the past year.

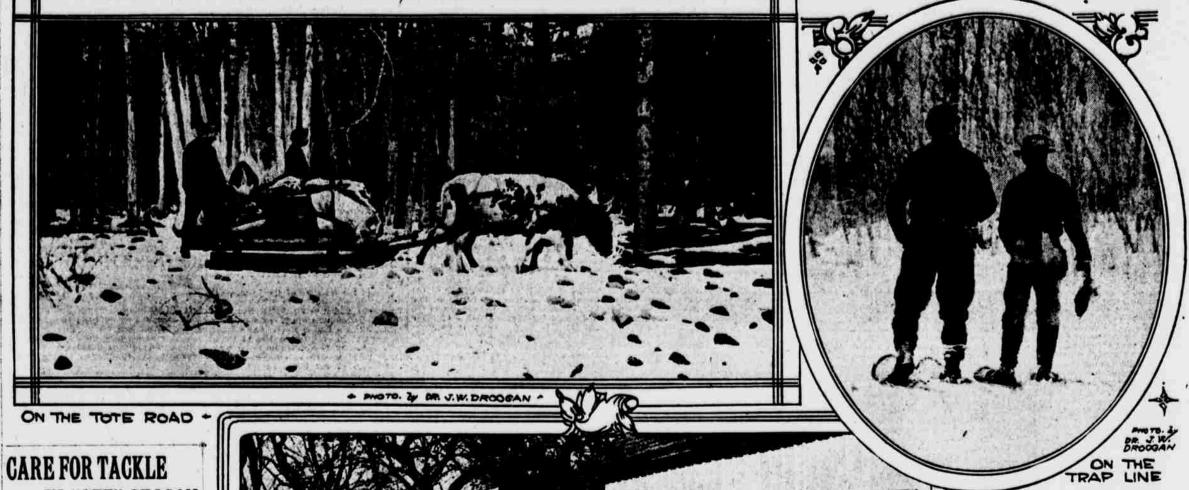
Remember, though, you had not reversed on the real after each day's fishing and the ends carefully tested each time before being used.

All eventually arrived—some in worse condition than others, if that was possible—at the edge of a clearing where the dogs were policing a patch of underbrush in the centre of which was a fair sized tree.

After deciding which way to fell the tree one of the party produced an age and by the light of pitch knot soon brought the coming monarch of the woods to the ground. As soon as it fell there seemed to be a million dogs barking, iterring and snapping at the poor fittle possum which, when they were beaten off, looked as though it had been warned.

If you see a treut enthusiant your line warned.

## DO YOU LIKE A 'POSSUM OR 'COON HUNT? NOW IS THE TIME TO GO AS MOON'S LIGHT INCREASES



# IN "OFF" SEASON

### How to Care for Rod.

in putting a rod away for the winter first go over it carefully. If the ferrules need tightening attend to them at once. You may forget to do so in the excitement of opening day.

See if the wood needs varnishing; it

undoubtedly will if it has seen much use during the past season. Now he sure during the past season. Now he sure these things, little though they may

As said before, the farmer was going to move. He had about fifty chickens which "be allowed be didn't want to take with him." He was willing to "husting" must lie" them off, each "husting" must.

If it is found impossible to find a convenient place to hang the rod, it is bet-

### Oll and Clean Reel.

On putting the reel away for the senson be sure and give it the same care tinual fishing. Get out the old junk-and attention that is given the rod, as on you will find lots of it—and place what the reel greatly depends the quality of its left in shipshape order. I know you the angler's cast and his efficiency as a will agree it is only taking up room and

First remove the line from the reel if memory. it is a casting line. A trout line, when not in use, even in the open season, should be kept off the reel on what is known as a wooden line reel.

If the reel is one of the many "take aparts," by all means take it apart and see that it is thoroughly cleaned and olled.

exodus of men and dogs into the chilly air, followed by more dog fights, beat-best for this; a slight touch of vaseline on the cogs will help keep it in shape and others of the caulous table.

A clean, light oil is considered the for fishing. best for this; a slight touch of vaseline on the cogs will help keep it in shape.

ANGL and others of the canine tribe.

Quiet being restored in a measure a council of war was held, the plan of action decided on being that those that had won chickens should go and catch them. This was agreed to, and if the logs was decided and made an unsection and if the logs were delicated to the control of the control o

slightly olled and put away in the case. Cases are inexpensive and will be found to be valuable as a protection to the reel

The Line Not for Mother's Use. A line, especially if used for bait casting, has received the hardest sort of treatment during a season's fishing, if one is fortunate to have it last that

A number of angiers equip themselves A number of angiers equip themselves each year with one or two new lines, fre-quently oftener. The writer, however, has a casting line that he has used for the past two seasons and has been the means of landing some large fish during the past year.

Remember, though, you sceptic, this

warned.
If you are a trout enthusiast your line

ing from Grassy Banks," an oldtime waltz.—By Capt. Frost. "My Old Jamaica Bay Shack Waltz." By N. J. Gawley. Soft Drinks to the Front, or the Hip Pocket's Lament, Waltz."-By An Old-

"When We Fished in Old Gowanus Waltz."—By Tinsley. "Memories of Newtown Creek, or Fish-

is really of no use except as a pleasant

is a more pleasant pastime to the "ang-ling bug" than to go through that tackle box, especially if it's in order, each article in its place and what you want

when you want it! Do the things ad-vised, brother; they tend to more real enjoyment with fishing tackle that's fit

ANGLERS' WALTZ NAMES.

suggestions as to Its Designation on Programme of Jan. 6.

reception and entertainment Saturday, January 6, at Amsterdam Opera House,

ters representing the initials of the United Anglers' League.—By Bird-Fish.

"Mrs. B. M. Briggs Waltz," in honor of the young and beautiful wife of the president of the United Anglers League.

During the long winter evenings what

Maine's Rabbit Season. In Maine the rabbit season lasts until



READY FOR A " COON AN' POSSUM" HUNT. .

will be either oiled or enamelled and NEW MARYLAND LAWS

"GU-GU," SAYS NEW

REDUCE BAG LIMITS

The ten general acts follow: Changing the season on squirrels, enacting a statewide law prohibiting the and which has much value as food, export of all game except water fowl, but is known locally as totuava.

allowing a licensed hunter to take out David Starr Jordan has received from allowing a needed number of the an amount equal to one day's bag limit Elichiro Nakashima, a graduate of the if killed by himself and not for sale; Fisheries School at Tokio, a man who enacting a comprehensive model law for has had considerable experience in the ing game, removing doves from the game | concerning | exempting starlings from protection; strenghtening the law in regard to the powers of the warden or his deputies as the

to search and seizure.

Protecting elk and deer for six years; further restricting the use of power boats in hunting water fowl; reducing The following additional names have been suggested for the waltz that is to be dedicated to the United Anglers League, and to be played at the league on March 15 instead of April 10, but per-West Porty-fourth street:
"The Contribual Waltz," a name recognizing the contributors of the Rod and Gun column and the last three let- under a conservation commission of three members.

The rabbit season lasts in Vermont

and Massachusetts until the end of Feb-

president of the United Anglers League.

—By A. Director.

"The George England Fadeaway
Waltz."—By Gus Christman.

"The Grayfish Goulash Galop."—By
Robert Fridenberg.

"They Bit Yesterday and Will Bite
To-morrow Waltz."—By Merry Kuss.

"The Netters Nocturnal Haul March."

—By A. Fanciulli.

"When We Fished in Old Gowanus First Day of Closed Season for Game in New York State.

\*Except wood duck and swans, tSpecial rabbit season in Richn tockland counties, January 1 uary 1.

GIGANTIC WEAKFISH

n species of weakfish which reaches huge size, six feet or more in lengt a known as corvina.

if killed by himself and not for sale; Fisheries School at Tokio, a man who enacting a comprehensive model law for has had considerable experience in the the protection of non-game birds, defin-pursuit of this fish, a series of notes (Gilbert)

body. The air bladder is very large and tending the close season on taperature thick, spread in the greater part of the abdomen. The bladder in the male is thin, like paper.

In the spring the roung of three or natural rush bed thick enough to con-HIGH WATER FOR LOCAL ANGLERS FROM DECEMBER 31 TO JANUARY 7. Willets

inches swim close to shore; by the rings on the scales we estimate these be a year old; those of three feet in ingth as four years old, those of six to six and a half feet sight or nine years old, this being the maximum size. The street. There are also pickerel in Silver males seem to breed at the age of four years; the females develop more slowly. feel. Remove and with the feel, as suggested above, or if you are not so
equipped, hang it up in coils in some
cool, dry place where the light and dust
will not get at it.

Caution—It is advised that in colling
a line do not turn the coils off a turn at
at time over the hand, as by doing this
at each coil you put a half turn in the
line with the result that it is baddy
kinked and twisted.

The tackle box is generally the carryall for the whole outfit and, brother, one
all for the whole outfit and, brother, one
collects quite an outfit in a season's concollects quite for the whole outfit and, brother, one
collects quite for the whole outfit and, brother, one
collects quite for the whole outfit and, brother, one
collects quite for the whole outfit and outfit in a season's concollects quite for the day of the carryand Described by Eilehron

Nakashima.

The tackle box is feel the maximum size. The
makes ever to the day of the

## ONTARIO LIMITS DUCK.

#### New Game Legislation Is Passed in Canadian City. in New Jersey the fisherman has not Toronto, Ont., Dec. 23.-Ontario has

passed new game legislation as follows: | got 19 Ing game, removing doves from the game concerning it.

| passed new game legislation as follows: fishing. The following lakes are well list, prohibiting the sale of plumage, providing for the issuance of a \$1 permit. Nakashima's observations, the fish have mean any person domiciled in the providing been named Concerning it.

| passed new game legislation as follows: fishing. The following lakes are well befining the term "non-cestident" to worth a try and under ordinary circumstances in the providing for scientific collecting, and specifically ing been named Concerning it. for scientific collecting, and specifically ing been named Cynoscion macdonaldi ince for a period of less than six months; The totawa is caught mainly about the mouth of the Colorado River and southward to Guaymas in Sonora. Shall be mouth of the Colorado River and southward to Guaymas in Sonora. Shall close the season of the colorado River and southward to Guaymas in Sonora as the best dishing grounds. These dishes are best dishing grounds. These dishes are in winter, very abundant in summer. They live both in clear and muddy water. They preferable temperature is from Crober 15 to November 15 and from December 23 to January 2 and at the winter they go southward to Guaymas. Their migration is in part from December 23 to January 2 and at any other time be means other than shooting; making it uniawful to remind the winter they go southward to Guaymas. Their migration is in part in white they go southward to Guaymas. Their migration is in part in white they go southward to Guaymas. Their migration is in part in white they go southward to Guaymas. Their migration is in part in white the feed. These adold the indowing cold water of the Colorado They spawn mainly in early May, any parently in shallow water. After this they are very lean. They often come into very shallow water. They are omnivorous, feeding on any kind of small tish or crabs, but especially on shrimps. In pursuing small fish they often lear a fish or crabs, but especially on shrimps. In pursuing small fish they often lear of the colorado They spawn mainly on any limit of the spring sample and the season of the propagating or representation, thus making the monore and around as if in curlosity.

The mouth of the Colorado Theory space printed by the owner.

The Bleyste Angler.

The the best take the mark to describe the fer shall be the town the water. The Sun as c requiring a \$5 license of residents, ex-Longwood Lake Hopatrong, Lake Denmark,

New York State.

UP-STATE.

UP-STATE.

Varying hare, rabbits!

LONG ISLAND.

Waterfew!\*

Jan 11

Around as if in curiosity.

The male makes a very peculiar noise, vember the uniform season on big game; "gu-su," when caught The female is shortening the season two weeks on larger than the male and deeper in the woodcock by opening October 12; exbody. The air bladder is very large and stending the close season on the control of the control of the close season on the control of the control of the close season on the control of th

ceal a boat, or from a water line bound-ing private property; making it unlaw-ful to take, destroy or possess eggs of game birds except under permit of the Minister to engage in the business of propagating game birds.

Reducing the fee for a numbershare and appeared license from \$50 to \$25, and rewant to the order in council presenting to the order in council presenting to also non-nesident theorie for birds.

In Pennsylvania Wilson or jack unipe may be \$25 non-nesident theorie for birds. Reducing the fee for

# TARPON TIME ONLY MONTH OR SO OFF

Florida, Alabama, Texas and Mexico Home of Silver

#### WHERE BIG FISH ABOUND

January and February will witness the exodus of thousands of Northern anglers who leave their wintry home-for the mild climate of the South, who can be caught the savage parraculacan be caught the savage barracul, the sporting kinglish, the graceful Spaish mackerel, the leaping tarpon, the fighting amberjack, the clusive salida-the big sewish, the mighty channel bas-and, if one is lucky, the wandering

It is the tarpon particularly, honever that attracts people to the Florida waters, for the silver king is a name fighter that never gives up until he a in the boat, and even then he will con-

Tarpon are taken all along the Florida coast, and Texas and Alabama boost oost, and Texas and Alabama boost of some of the best fishing that can be found in this country. If Mexico was not in a state of civil war doubtless hundreds of anglers would head for the woonderfully productive tarpon waters of the Mexican coast. But until peace comes to Mexico few anglers will venture forth in that was tidden would be the found of the transfer to the way tidden will be the found of the transfer to the transf

comes to Mexico few anglers will venture forth in that war ridden country.

The waters of Chariotte Harbor, Flarecord early tarpon catches. The first one taken in 1916 was landed on Feetuary 22 by Louis Bremer. It weighed 118 pounds.

Although many fished between that date and March 10, it was not until the latter date that the next tarpon was taken by Mrs. Harry Whitney. Her fish weighed 62 by pounds. After March 1e practically fish were taken daily as long as anglers fished for them.

#### Charlotte Harbor Productive.

Just how productive the waters of Charlotte Harbor are may be seen from the fact that on May 36 63 tarpon were recorded in one day. It was on May 22 that Louis Bremer, Jr., took his 184',

that Louis Bremer, Jr., took his 184', pound fish.

The records show the following catches for one angler, Louis Bremer May 25, 4 tarpon, heaviest 120 pounds; May 24, 5 tarpon, heaviest 181 pounds; May 25, 5 tarpon, heaviest 181 pounds, May 25, 5 tarpon, heaviest 184 pounds; May 30, 7 tarpon, heaviest 180 pounds; May 31, 4 tarpon, heaviest 190 pounds; June 1, 5 tarpon, heaviest 190 pounds; June 8, 11 tarpon, heaviest 190 pounds; June 9, 9 tarpon, heaviest 190 pounds, June 9, 9 tarpon, heaviest 190 pounds. By GEORGE L. BUGUEY.

June 19, 20 tarpon, heaviest 150 pounds.
June 19, 20 tarpon, heaviest 140 pounds.
Another angier who fishes practically
daily is F. B. Crowninshield, Mr. Crown.

The bold and democratic pickers; is awaiting the angler's picasure.

The pickers! season in New York State is onen until March I, with the exception of Lake George, where the season closes on Freeember 31.

In New Jersey the pickers! season closes on the 3ath of November with an additional twenty days from January L.

All pickers! taken in Jersey waters must be at least twelve inches in length.

It is also well to remember that a in months at a stretch is B. W. Crowning. length.

It is also well to remember that a months at a stretch is B. W. Crowmithing license is required which costs sided, who on June 17 took is tarpor the non-resident angler \$2.15.

LAW OFF PICKEREL

IN JERSEY WATERS

Additional Twenty Days of

Fishing Permitted After

To-morrow.

Centre. Hemmsten

ervoir, Baldwin, Preeport, Wantagh, Massapequa and Newleidge, The Peconic river affords some good

pickerel fishing, as does Lake Ronkon-

New Hampshire Habbit Season.

First Day of the Closed Season for Water fowl in the New England and

Middle States.

"Under the regulations for the protection of interatory birds the season is alosed until September 1, 1918, on wood ducks and

In New Hampshire hare or rabbit

Long Island and Up-State Streams. Founds.

"Where can I get good pickerel near tarpon the heaviest of which weighed by" is the regular question, so for the 179 pounds. by T' is the regular question, so for the benefit of those anglers who still desire to get a few days more fishing before they put away the outfit for another season the following places are given. Hear in mind, however, that the writer does not guarantee that the fisherman will come home with a full creel. First let us take Long Island. The following streams are controlled by the Hrooklyn Bureau of Water Supply, to whom one should first apply for a permit before fishing. Address J. F. Langthorn, Deputy Commissioner, 50 Court street, Brooklyn; Valley Stream, Rocksteller, Langthorn, Deputy Commissioner, 50 Court street, Brooklyn; Valley Stream, Rocksteller, Langthorn, Deputy Commissioner, 50 Court street, Brooklyn; Valley Stream, Rocksteller, Langthorn, Deputy Commissioner, 50 Court street, Brooklyn; Valley Stream, Rocksteller, Langthorn, Deputy Commissioner, 50 Court street, Brooklyn; Valley Stream, Rocksteller, Langthorn, Langthorn

If we'd saught him were a Despite the fact that the target a giers of the Izaak Walton Club are ve orderly men and take their partime ser ously they boldly print in their club nouncement this picture of the dah

with and Wildwood Lake.

With there are some pickerel in the onsly ponds on Staten Island, Martins and Hounes man: Its try them.

To the mind of the writer probably Mights He riseth up early in the merring and a Mighty are his preparations. He seek forth full of hope. When the day is far spent he rating truth is not in him. the best place near New York for pick-

Big Tarpon at St. Petersburg.

The St. Petersburg Tarpon : hib. wh

Sullivan county is well provided to in the way of lakes, among them being Loch Sheidrake. Anawanna Lake, White Lake, Shaudee Lake, Kenoza Lake, Lake Huntington. Pleasant Lake and Wanita Lake.

Wanita Lake.

Wanita lake.

Wanita lake.

H. Walter Fuller, St. Petersburg, Fla.

H. Walter Fuller, St. Petersburg, Fla.

The third largest tarpon was The chiral largest tar inches and was taken by G. W. got 10 go very far to get good pickerel of Lims. Ohto.
fishing. The following lakes are well J. Frank Chase of St. Petersby

captured a tarpon of 75% Inches. Other big tarpon included J. J. Deff. Pass-a-Grille, Fla. four fish, 73, 74 and 71 inches; G. W. Griffith, Law



Exaited Supreme valle. Doligatrally good side with good comparing good work at the cut to tertainment and Recorden of the United August

Hen of the United the League. Medical Court House, 44th Safurday Ev. Jan. Safurday Ev. Jan. Safurday Ev. Jan. Safurday Ev. Jan. So o clock Tickets admirgent and lady, incompared to the Court of Al. S. Harwing Pinancial Sec., 3069 Myrtle av. Brookly

Iron Steamboat Co PREING, Str. TAURUS

OUR BEST WISHES TO ALL